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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

TAKAHASHI et al.

Atty. Ref.: 1767-117

Serial No. 10/616,954

TC/A.U.: 2613

Filed: July 11, 2003

Examiner: TBA

For: ENCODING RATE CONTROLLING APPARATUS AND  
INFORMATION ENCODING APPARATUS

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January 10, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**STATUS INQUIRY**

An application was filed on July 11, 2003. However, since then applicant has not received any Official Action from the Patent Office regarding the application. Inquiry is made as to when an Action will be forthcoming.

Respectfully submitted,

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